

****Transformational Leadership****

Transformation starts with ... An Awakening of the Holy Spirit.



*My dear fellow journeyers,
This weekend continues to be such a
time of quiet with Him as I enjoy just
listening. I humbly leave this with
you for what it is worth at this
particular time in your individual
journey. Love, Dale*

Transformation begins only when there is an awakening of the Spirit of Christ within us:

We may wonder: “Oh, but I thought that we all have the Spirit of Christ within us”. What we are ... is a full replica of God which includes the Trinity - Father, Son and Holy Spirit We are made in His complete image with His full DNA – nothing excluded. Can you imagine this ... the reality of being made in the full and complete image of God (Genesis 1:26)? Wow!

After the *Fall of Man* and the *Resurrection of Christ*, we are reminded in John 14:20 of this oneness with Father, Son and Holy Spirit that was designed for us from the Beginning. What I especially noted in my retreat time this weekend it that in Genesis 1: 3-25, it was much said about God creating the world: God created, God said, God called, God made ... then a sudden transition happened in verse 26, when we see that His full Trinity take over ... no longer just God but *us*:

Let us make man in our image and in our likeness (Genesis 1:26).

Being made in the image of God was a special gift given to man by God in His full Trinity that differentiated humans from the other animals and living things.

Now, how many of us use all of the gifts that others have given to us? What happens when we do not use these gifts? Correct, we do not enjoy what was given to us, they remain non-existent in that we have not benefitted from them. To truly benefit from a gift, we have to desire or want to open it in order to enjoy all that it offers. Likewise, the gift of the Holy Spirit that was given to us in the package of being made ‘in His image’, remains dormant, unused, ineffective until we make a *conscious* decision to open and experience an awakening to this gift ... the Holy Spirit. It is even more than just a decision; it is a deep desire, a panting to know more about this gift.

Without this awakening of the Holy Spirit, nothing much is going to happen:

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. (Romans 8:9).

In fact, our bodies are totally dead without the awakening of the Spirit. We can view it as the Holy Spirit being the key to life and without it is death or we can view it as the heart of the body and without it the body is not alive:

But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you (Romans 8:11).

We can infer from this that if the Spirit of Christ does not dwell in us, we are dead for our mortal bodies will not be quickened.

Let us pause & reflect ...

So let us pause and reflect on this first step in the journey of transformation. The Holy Spirit is the key and without this key, there is total chaos. We can go further in saying that in the absence of the Holy Spirit, all is hopeless:

For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace (Corinthians 14:33).

What can we learn from this? We can learn that without the Holy Spirit, our efforts for transformation – *to be personally transformed and to transform others* is in vain ... it is just that ... efforts.

While we are always encouraged to pray for ourselves and others, nothing much is going to happen until there is that *awakening* of the Holy Spirit – only God can change and transform man ... we cannot in the absence of God in, with and as us. So then, let us stop frustrating ourselves when we cannot stop cursing, lying, cheating, hurting others and so on, Let us also stop frustrating ourselves when we cannot get others to stop doing these things as well. In the absence of the Holy Spirit ... nothing is going to happen! We got this – yes? ☺

This also helps us to see why the long and loud screaming and shouting of illnesses (and the devil) out of the lives of others does not seem to have a lasting impact. This is because it is all just an external expression of the efforts of the flesh that are dead without the Holy Spirit.

If you have an awakening of the Holy Spirit, just enjoy speaking to the same Holy Spirit in others ... a deep within us that sweetly and relaxingly calls out to the same deep in others. Once this wakening in the other happens ... Wow, there is healing, peace, salvation and all else:

Deep calls unto Deep (Psalm 42:7).

In this *deep*, there is a place of sweet anointing through a place of intimacy with God that only you and God can go ... where deep calls unto deep, Spirit communes with Spirit. It is that place where there is such a thirst for God as the song states ... 'like the deer pants after water'.

When we experience this level of intimacy with God, every part of our being is consumed by God through the Holy Spirit. No need for shouting or screaming or any focus on the devil (that does not stand a chance at this level of intimacy). It is just God ... all God!

This further explains a few other things to which you can probably relate.

- **Why** after all of these years of damnation teachings, the world is still desperately looking for Christ? We tried forcing many into coming to Christ through condemnation and threats of hell. When all we had to do was call forth the Holy Spirit within them by lighting their world of darkness with an awakening of His sweet presence ... the true and only light.

I am the light of the world: he that follows me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life (John 8:12).

Turning on of the light – an awakening of the Holy Spirit creates a *longing* for His beauty that the Shulamite spoke of in Songs of Solomon causing the Women of Jerusalem to crave Him (pant after Him).

Chapter 5: 9-16

⁹ *How is your beloved better than others,*

most beautiful of women?

How is your beloved better than others,

that you so charge us

¹⁰ *My beloved is radiant and ruddy, outstanding among ten thousand.*

¹¹ *His head is purest gold; his hair is wavy and black as a raven.*

¹² *His eyes are like doves by the water streams, washed in milk, mounted like jewels.*

¹³ *His cheeks are like beds of spice yielding perfume.*

His lips are like lilies dripping with myrrh.

¹⁴ *His arms are rods of gold set with topaz.*

His body is like polished ivory decorated with lapis lazuli.

¹⁵ *His legs are pillars of marble set on bases of pure gold.*

His appearance is like Lebanon, choice as its cedars.

¹⁶ *His mouth is sweetness itself; he is altogether lovely.*

This is my beloved; this is my friend, daughters of Jerusalem.

Chapter 6: 1

¹ *Where has your beloved gone, most beautiful of women?*

Which way did your beloved turn, that we may look for him with you?

The very best of us become fallen victims to the lack of understanding of the power of the Holy Spirit. Our dear brother Moses loved God. He wanted to do all that was pleasing to God. But, he took it all upon himself to a place of excessive

fatigue where his team members had to help lift his hands (Exodus 17:12). He allowed all that was happening to drive him to frustration – and we as leaders can relate to this – even after the most miraculous parting of the Red Sea to free the people, they immediately started fretting about not having water and bread to eat – what a thing to endure as a leader! In total despair, he smote the rock (Numbers 20:11) that cost him the crossover into Jordan (Deuteronomy 3:21; 5:33). Moses with the best of intentions did not come to the realization that only God could have made the difference in the hearts of the people through an awakening of the Holy Spirit within them ... he could not make this happen.

- **Why** do so many of us give up trying to minister to others through pure frustration? We excessively talk to them – pouring our hearts into them then someone else comes along and talks them out of it all so they head in that other direction. If someone can be talked into something by you, someone else can talk them out of it. It is all within the realm of natural persuasion. This is yet another human effort that fails in the absence of the Holy Spirit.

Not by Might, nor by Power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord Almighty (Zechariah 4:6)

- **Why** suicide?

The rates seem to be hitting an all-time high and among the strongest demographics – no longer among just the poor, the uneducated, the sick but also among the richest, the most educated, the healthy. It is the loss of hope in spite of all human efforts to live ... in the absence of the Holy Spirit... there is just death. It is where somehow the focus changed from pleasing God to pleasing *me*. So then why do I not have a car, home, education, friendship, love, peace, etc.? It was and is never about us. When and how did we miss that it is *all* about Him and bringing Him pleasure and in doing so, we find pleasure and joy unspeakable:

And it was for His pleasure alone that I was and am created (Revelation 4:11)

Let us pray ...

Dear God, today I thank you for making me in your image and likeness. I feel a sense of worthiness that you would choose to bestow all that you are within me. I am grateful for this gift to be like you and to showcase to others all that you are in me ... so that they too can desire and enjoy this.

Please help me un-wrap this gift through an awakening of your Holy Spirit within me. I know now that this is the key to my life's purpose, happiness and total fulfilment. I love you and want to be in human form all that you desire of me. May all that you are within me bring great pleasure to you daily as I share in this pleasure daily. Amen.

Song: As the Deer Panteth ... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=no9StppmvGA>